

09/529342
527 C'd PCT/PTO 13 APR 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

CLARKE et al

Atty. Ref.: 39-206

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

Filed: April 13, 2000

Examiner:

For: PARTICLES

8/A
10.31.00

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April 13, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Claim 4, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.~~

~~Claim 6, line 1, delete "or 5".~~

~~Claim 7, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.~~

~~Claim 8, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-6" and insert -- claim 1 --.~~

~~Claim 9, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-6" and insert -- claim 1 --.~~

~~Claim 10, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.~~

~~Claim 11, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-9" and insert -- claim 1 --.~~

~~Claim 13, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1-9" and insert -- claim 1 --.~~

~~Claim 14, line 1, delete "any preceding" and after "claim" insert -- 1 --.~~

~~Claim 20, line 1, delete "or claim 19".~~

~~Claim 22, line 1, delete "any one of claims 18-21" and insert -- claim 18 --.~~

~~Claim 25, line 1, delete "or claim 24".~~

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